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Injured Animals Find Sanctuary at Animal Ark



Milagro (Milo) - one of Animal Ark's newest residents

Animal Ark is a tax-exempt, non-profit nature center and sanctuary for non-releasable wildlife.

Hours

Tuesday through Sunday
10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Closed Mondays,
except holidays

April 1 to Nov. 2, 2008

Directions

From Reno, take Hwy. 395 North to Exit 78-Red Rock Road. Turn right and drive 11.5 miles. Turn right on Deerlodge Rd. Drive 1 mile to 1265 Deerlodge Rd.

Mail

Animal Ark
P.O. Box 60057
Reno, NV 89506-0001
1-775-970-3111
www.animalark.org
info@animalark.org

On February 5, 2008, a seven month old mountain lion was hit by a car on Kingsbury Grade near Lake Tahoe while lying on the road after possibly being hit by an earlier passing vehicle. As the concerned driver turned around to come back and check on the animal, a passing snowplow pulled up to keep the kitten from being hit yet again.

Within minutes Carl Lackey, a Nevada Department of Wildlife biologist who just happened to be driving by, was also on the scene. The animal was in shock, but still alive.

After a thorough exam by Dr. Jim Nelson of Animal Emergency Center, a serious fracture of the femur and some pelvic injuries were revealed. Dr. Davyd Pelsue of Veterinary Specialists of Nevada, a boarded veterinary surgeon, was

contacted and one of his associates, Dr. Michael Dearmin who is also a boarded veterinary surgeon, agreed to perform the necessary orthopedic surgery. During the operation an abscess and possible infection were also identified.

After the surgery, the kitten arrived at Animal Ark on February 8. All that we could do is pray, offer food, water and a comfortable environment.

Two days passed and he began to eat and mobility quickly returned. Unfortunately there was no way to reunite this young cougar with his mother who would teach him how to live and hunt in the wild, so he joined the Ark as an ambassador for the mountain lion species - the largest carnivore in Nevada.

The name Milagro, which is Spanish for Miracle, was bestowed upon him because many were the miracles that led to his survival. Thanks to Carl Lackey and Drs. Nelson, Pelsue and Dearmin for giving "Milo" a second chance.

In addition to "Milo", Animal Ark was blessed with six other new animals. One was Beatrix, a North American badger. Like Milo she was hit by a car. Her injuries are such that she can not be returned to the wild. We invite you to come out and see this unique predator. (For more on Beatrix, please see page 3).

New to the Ark since our last newsletter are Lisa and Teresa the red foxes and coyotes Amelia and Sadie. These animals were orphaned in the wild as pups. There was no hope for them outside an environment like Animal Ark's. Amelia and Sadie will eventually enjoy the coyote exhibit. Lisa and Teresa are living comfortably in a beautiful, new exhibit built by Eagle Scout Nick Lehan and his troop which was also funded in part by the Robert Z. Hawkins Foundation.

Every enclosure is full. With these additional residents our food bill has obviously increased. More time is necessary to properly care for these animals. Any financial help toward the care of Milo, Beatrix and the rest of our family is greatly appreciated!

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR....

Aaron R. Hiibel - Executive Director/Cofounder

Well, if you have read the rest of the newsletter, you will see that we are in exciting and historic times for Animal Ark. Now that we have purchased the land that the facility is on, we can refocus on the mission of our non-profit wildlife sanctuary which is the housing of disadvantaged wild animals and the offering of recreational education programs (which is at an all time high).

We plan expansion of both the facility and its programs. As part of that process we are working with Strategic Management Services of Sparks to strengthen our organization internally as we go from a "mom & pop" organization to an institutional one. The Trustees and Staff have also been meeting to map out the route that will take the facility to "the next level". After 28 years of nurturing this vision of ours, we are very excited about the future!

Sincere appreciation to:

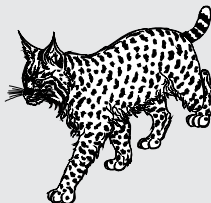
- ★ The William & Mattie Harris Foundation - for funding of staff to increase our education programs, and to
- ★ The Nell J. Redfield Foundation
- ★ The Thelma & Thomas Hart Foundation

for the funding of programs, staff and bus fees for Title One (at risk) schools. Hundreds of children, who would not normally have the chance, have now seen the wonders of nature at Animal Ark. **THANK YOU!**

What is Animal Ark?

Nestled in the hills northwest of Reno is a place that will appeal to anyone who appreciates nature. The facility's rural mountain setting provides an ideal location to house non-releasable wildlife and allows the public a unique opportunity to view these animals in natural habitat exhibits.

From a 400-pound black bear named Yogi to Effie the arctic fox, Animal Ark provides a permanent home to "disadvantaged" wildlife who can no longer live in the wild. Many of the animals are confiscated or unwanted exotic pets, orphaned or permanently disabled. In many cases, they would have been euthanized if they had not found a home at the Ark. Animal Ark is not a zoo, but a nonprofit sanctuary and nature center.



Special thanks to these organizations and individuals who made very substantial gifts to the "Making Tracks for the Future" Capital Campaign:

- ♥ The Thelma & Thomas Hart Foundation
- ♥ Stanton Thomas
- ♥ The Monroe-Schuler Foundation
- ♥ The DEW Foundation
- ♥ The Robert Z. Hawkins Foundation
- ♥ Norma and Ransom Webster
- ♥ The E.L. Cord Foundation
- ♥ The WHC Foundation
- ♥ Steve & Joann Phillips
- ♥ Otis Bay Ecological
- ♥ Heidi Loeb



The cost of printing and mailing this very informative newsletter is on the rise.

In an effort to help Animal Ark reduce costs, we would like to offer to send this to you via e-mail. Just send us an e-mail at info@animalark.org with your FULL NAME and E-MAIL address and when our system is up and running we will send future issues to you electronically.

Thanks for helping us!

"BUY AN ACRE" PROGRAM

Although we have completed Phase One, we will continue with the "Buy an Acre" program in order to raise funds for the purchase of an adjacent parcel. This will allow us to expand and to utilize an additional water resource.

The "**Buy an Acre**" Program gives you a special and limited-time opportunity to be a part of this unique organization. Animal Ark's 38 acres have been divided into 103 parcels for adoption. It may be the wildflower fields, sagebrush and canyons that appeal to you. It may be the smallest of animal enclosures or the large cheetah run field that tickles your fancy. You get to select the parcel that interests you the most.

While Animal Ark retains legal title, a plot map of the entire facility will be located near the entrance to the facility, recognizing each of the individuals/organizations who have supported the Animal Ark through the Buy an Acre Program. An "Honor Garden" with engraved stones will also recognize your very important gift to Animal Ark.

For a catalog of available parcels or for additional information please contact: Aaron Hiibel, Executive Director/ Cofounder at 1-775-970-3111 or ahiibel@animalark.org

Start Making Tracks for the Future! Help now!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE:

Animal Ark has successfully completed Phase I of the Capital Campaign!!!

Thank you to **EVERYONE** who helped make this campaign successful. It is through your donations and with major support from the Thelma and Thomas Hart Foundation that Animal Ark was able to close escrow on the property that it resided on for 28 years. This was truly an historic event!!!



Jennifer Newmark, President of Animal Ark hands check to Karol Kelly of Stewart Title as Exec. Dir. Aaron Hiibel looks on

More on Beatrix



Beatrix, a North American badger

On January 24, 2008 the Nevada Department of Wildlife received a call from a store at Harmon Junction east of Fallon to report a badger was on the premises. Biologist Jenny Jeffers drove to the site to find a juvenile, 9 pound badger that appeared to have been struck by a car. Due to head injury and trauma the animal was taken to wildlife rehabilitator

Evelyn Pickles. Over the next 11 weeks she received excellent care to bring her health back for hopeful release back into the wild.

As time went on it became obvious this young badger was suffering from neurological problems which was demonstrated by lack of control over her left rear paw. There were also times when she seemed confused, although this was improving. Other than these issues she appeared happy, content and had a good appetite.

Since she was not a release candidate Animal Ark was contacted for permanent care. The Ark's very first badger arrived on April 11, 2008. She was named Beatrix after Beatrix Potter the conservationist and author of children's books.

Come visit Beatrix and the other animals who have found sanctuary at Animal Ark over the last few months.



One of Animal Ark's newest residents - Legend the Canada Lynx

Don't Forget
to Visit
Our NEW Website!

If you have not made
a visit recently to
www.animalark.org
you need to!!!

Thanks to Octane Studios
and our own
Jennifer Newmark
for a great job!

**Do THE
WILD THING...
ADOPT AN ANIMAL ARK
AMBASSADOR OR BECOME
A MEMBER**

Did you feel a special connection to one of Animal Ark's ambassadors? You can help the Ark take care of your favorite animal.

It currently costs more than \$45,000 per year to feed and care for the residents of Animal Ark.

Your support means that Animal Ark can continue to adopt orphaned or non-releasable animals in need of a home.

Animal sponsorships help feed and maintain the numerous animals at the Ark along with supporting many of our other programs.

Adoptions are for a one-year period and are \$100.

Through Animal Ark's "Share the Care" program, you can give an animal adoption as a gift or adopt one for a business or for yourself. And your donation is tax-deductible.

Memberships support the Ark and save you money on multiple visits and entrance to special events. There are a variety of ways to purchase a membership to suit your needs.

*Please call for an
Animal Ark Adoption Program
Brochure or a Membership
Brochure today, 1-775-970-3111
or download one from our
website www.animalark.org.*


**Farewell to Special
Friends**

It is so difficult to part with those we love. With great sadness we report the loss of our friends at Animal Ark:

- ♥ Ms. Penny the Desert Tortoise
- ♥ Sid AKA Squeak the Bobcat

Animal Ark Hosts a Visitor From Botswana

Rebecca Klein, Project Coordinator of Cheetah Conservation Botswana, was our guest speaker for the May 20th Cheetah Dash. We presented her with 4 camera traps from our friends at **Project Survival** in California, and a check from Animal Ark to further her efforts in Botswana to save the endangered cheetah.



*Rebecca Klein (middle) receiving a check from
Animal Ark's co-founders Aaron and Diana Hübel*



SUPPORT ANIMAL ARK'S CHEETAH CHALLENGE

- Yes**, I want to attend the Cheetah Challenge Adventure on Saturday, August 23. Please send me ___ tickets* at \$150 each!
* Ticket purchase includes dinner, spectacular high speed cheetah runs, full Birds in Flight program, wolf howl, raffle and more. Enjoy a fabulous evening while supporting the Animal Ark residents.

- No**, I won't be able to attend, but I am sending \$_____ to support the Ark's animals and programs.

Check Enclosed VISA MasterCard

Card # _____ Expiration Date: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

Please mail to:

Animal Ark
P.O. Box 60057 Reno, NV 89506-0001

Your contribution is tax deductible

minus the cost of the Cheetah Challenge dinner, if you attend this event.

2008 ANIMAL ARK CALENDAR OF EVENTS



BIRD FLIGHT PROGRAM
EVERY Wednesday
at 6:30 PM
\$10 Adults, \$8 Children

EVERY Saturday and Sunday
at 10:15 AM

Rates discounted with
General Admission
purchase to Animal Ark

Witness spectacular free flying birds depicting natural behaviors. For more information please see page 6.

BRIDGES TO AFRICA
July 16

7 PM to 8:30 PM
\$50 per person

(no children under 10)
RSVP - limited seating

Enjoy a very special high speed cheetah run along with meeting Vanessa Bouwer of the DeWildt Cheetah and Wildlife Trust in South Africa. Enjoy a Sundowner (non-alcoholic beverage) and watch the sun set over the Peterson Mountains. You will be helping to support Cheetah Conservation.

ARK AFTER DARK
Saturday, July 26
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM

RSVP by July 21
Limited admission;
reserve early as this event
fills quickly

\$15 Adults, \$12 Children

Wolves and coyotes howling, big cats stalking in the night, it's after dark and the predators are in their element. Don't snore while the tigers roar. Come join us for a starry safari around the Ark After Dark. You'll learn about creatures of the night during group led tours.

CHEETAH CHALLENGE
ADVENTURE!

Saturday, August 23
4:00 PM to 8:30 PM

\$150 per person

RSVP by August 9

No children under 10!

Limited seating; reserve
early as this event sells out!

This event is building on our annual Cheetah Challenge, and will be the event of the year! Your ticket purchase includes dinner, watching high speed cheetah runs, our new spectacular Birds in Flight program, a wolf howl, a raffle and more. Enjoy a fabulous evening at this fundraiser which helps the sanctuary gain funding for all of its residents.

CHEETAH DASH

Sunday, September 21
5 PM to 6:30 PM

1-2 people \$45, 3 or more \$40
RSVP - limited seating

Would you like to have an incredible experience in addition to supporting the Animal Ark and conservation of wild cheetahs? Once a month, the Ark is opening

its high speed cheetah runs to the public. Children must be at least 10 years old.

HARVEST FESTIVAL
Saturday, October 11

10:30 AM to 3 PM

\$12 Adults, \$10 Children

As part of our behavioral enrichment program the animals will receive pumpkins filled with special goodies. Watch the enjoyment experienced by our resident animals when presented with these unique and delicious treats. Every thirty minutes to one hour, pumpkins will be delivered to different animals. Come at opening, spend the day and don't forget the camcorder!

CHEETAH DASH

Sunday, October 19

4:30 PM to 6 PM

1-2 people \$45, 3 or more \$40
Please RSVP - limited seating
Would you like to have an incredible experience in addition to supporting the Animal Ark and conservation of wild cheetahs? Once a month, the Ark is opening its high speed cheetah runs to the public. Children must be at least 10 years old.

LAST CHANCE WEEKEND

Saturday & Sunday,

November 1 & 2

10 AM to 4:30 PM

\$2 off each regular admission
This is your last chance to see the Ark as the animals (and staff) get ready for winter! Help us celebrate a great year!

To purchase tickets or RSVP
for the events call Animal Ark
at 1-775-970-3111 or e-mail us
at info@animalark.org

CAPITAL NEEDS

“**Making Tracks for the Future**” includes both facility and program expansion. If you or your business would like to put your name on a specific undertaking, here are some upcoming projects:

- Land Acquisition; 12 acres that adjoins the Animal Ark facility for future expansion
- Development of new water resource
- Construction of bird of prey (Raptor) enclosures
- New badger and tortoise enclosures
- Additional animal enclosures giving us the ability to house more wildlife.
- A wildlife rehabilitation/holding facility for black bears and other native wildlife
- Design of a state of the art “green” Visitor Center which would include indoor wildlife exhibits, gift shop, snack bar and education/meeting rooms

Although cash is always welcome there are many other ways to help:

- Auction/Raffle items such as artwork, jewelry, or other items of value
- Construction equipment or tools
- Copy paper
- Bleach
- Stamps
- Paper towels

Estate or Planned Gifts

Naming Animal Ark as a beneficiary is simple and has lasting effects. You can name us as a beneficiary in a:

- Will
- Retirement Plan
- Insurance Policy
- Financial Account

You Won't Want to Miss This Special Bird Show

In addition to our great regular events we are adding a very entertaining and educational **Bird Show**.

The birds of a local falconer and friend, **Martin Stiasny**, will amaze you! See the largest owl in the world, fast diving falcons, agile eagles, or how about an African Pied Crow who will take money from the audience and put it in a donation box!

This entertaining Bird Show is featured every **Saturday and Sunday at 10:15 AM** and every **Wednesday at 6:30 PM**.



Bubu the Eurasian Eagle Owl



Sheryl the African Pied Crow with money taken from the audience

2008 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION AWARDS:



EXCELLENCE IN ANIMAL CARE, Nova Simpson

She is back as a volunteer after she resigned her paid position to finish her schooling. Her winter help and facility closing is a tremendous help.

With appreciation for her commitment and hard work we are pleased to give this year's Animal Care Award to Nova.



EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNICATION, Irene Payne

In addition to being a docent and Trustee, this lass from the UK has the responsibility of keeping Animal Ark in the public eye and does a jolly good job.

With sincere appreciation for all that she does, we are pleased to present this award to Irene.



EXCELLENCE IN VOLUNTEER SERVICE, Diane Machen

At the Ark since 2004, she is a very dedicated volunteer who has supported the organization in a number of ways including financially.

We are very pleased to give Diane this award for her excellent work as a docent and closing animal keeper.



EXCELLENCE IN MARKETING, Beth Schuler

She gives the Ark her experience, wisdom and advice which have been instrumental to the organization's internal growth. Her marketing skills gained critical funds and exposure for the sanctuary.

In appreciation for all that she does, we are very pleased to present this award to Beth.



OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER SERVICE, DENNIS & SUSAN HOORN

The award says it all. They help in a number of ways from gift shop attendants to field trip tour guide and landscape maintenance.

It is our pleasure to present this special award for outstanding service to Dennis and Susan.



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR, JENNIFER NEWMARK

Design and management of the website, Gift Shop Manager, President of the Board of Trustees, docent and animal keeper - what doesn't she do?

It is with great pleasure that we honor Jen with this award.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit the Ark and speak to a supervisor about how to become involved or call 1-775-970-3111!

2008 Animal Ark Board of Trustees

President
Jennifer Newmark,
Program Biologist, Nevada
Natural Heritage Program

Vice President
Stanton Thomas,
Businessman/Investor

Treasurer
Marla Hummel,
Assurance Manager,
Grant Thornton LLP

Secretary
Irene Payne,
Non profit coordinator,
public relations,
Strategic Management Service

Mike Alger, Trustee
Senior Meteorologist,
KTVN News,
author, small businessman

Mike Brown, Trustee
Construction Services Engineer,
Lumos & Associates Engineering

**Diana Hiibel, Trustee/
Cofounder**
Twenty-eight years as Senior
Animal Keeper and Education
Coordinator, Animal Ark, Inc.

**Aaron R Hiibel, Executive
Director/Cofounder**

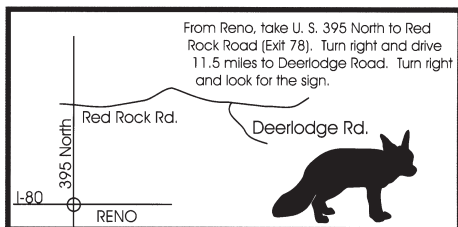
We are still looking for more
individuals to get involved.

If you are interested, contact
us at info@animalark.org



P.O. Box 60057
Reno, NV 89506-0001

Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Reno, NV
Permit #792



NOTE:

Save n Save shoppers -
Please send your receipts
directly to Animal Ark

***This is an easy way to help Animal Ark!
We have received over \$25,000 from the Fund!***

With the Scolari's Friendship Fund,
Animal Ark receives 1% of all of your Scolari's Club Card purchases.

- When you apply for a Scolari's card, please designate Animal Ark as the Friendship Fund account you would like to support. **The Ark's four digit number is 1033.**
- If you already have a Scolari's card, but did not designate the Animal Ark as your Friendship Fund, please ask the store clerk to make the change during your next store visit.
- If you already have a Scolari's card, but haven't updated your Friendship Fund information in the past two years, please re-enroll and designate Animal Ark as your Friendship Fund.

Thank you!